

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 210

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to honor Tom P. Thompson, Jr., District Attorney General for the Fifteenth Judicial District, on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Tom P. Thompson, Jr., District Attorney General for the Fifteenth Judicial District, is one such individual who has demonstrated the greatest integrity, steadfast leadership, and unwavering fairness in the performance of his elected duties during his lengthy career in public service; and

WHEREAS, General Thompson is a 1960 graduate of Castle Heights Military Academy and a 1964 graduate of Centre College; and

WHEREAS, he taught briefly at Castle Heights and Trousdale County High School before enrolling at Vanderbilt University School of Law, from which he graduated in 1969; and

WHEREAS, after being admitted to the bar, General Thompson proudly served his country in the U.S. Army as a legal officer at the training center at Fort Bragg from 1969 to 1971; and

WHEREAS, on July 6, 1971, he was appointed to serve as an assistant district attorney general under the leadership of the District Attorney General of the Twentieth Judicial District, Thomas Shriver; and

WHEREAS, when his father, also an attorney, began suffering health problems, General Thompson returned home to Hartsville to practice law with him until his father's passing; and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 1973, he became an assistant district attorney general for a judicial district composed of eleven counties; and

WHEREAS, after the resignation of the district attorney and the division of the judicial district into two districts, Tom P. Thompson, Jr., was appointed District Attorney General for the Fifteenth Judicial District, which included Macon, Wilson, Smith, Jackson, and Trousdale counties, on September 23, 1977; and

WHEREAS, he was elected to fill the unexpired term of his predecessor in 1978 and has since been reelected to five full terms, in 1982, 1990, 1998, 2006, and 2014; and

WHEREAS, Tom P. Thompson served the citizens of the Fifteenth Judicial District with distinction as their District Attorney General until his retirement on February 28, 2021, after more than forty-three years on the job; he is perhaps the longest-serving district attorney general in the history of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his retirement, Tom P. Thompson, Jr., had accumulated fifty-three years of public service, when combining his military service with his tenure as a prosecutor; and

WHEREAS, District Attorney General Tom P. Thompson, Jr., has proven himself to be wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and he should be recognized on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Tom P. Thompson, Jr., District Attorney General for the Fifteenth Judicial District, on his many years of service to the people of Tennessee and his well-earned retirement and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to

the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.